

NAGAOKA — 09/978,543
Client/Matter: 008312-0283791

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of processing files including a first and second apparatuses, each apparatus for recording image data in a built in recording medium in a manner of complying with a file managing structure compatible with a DCF standard, and permitting the first and the second apparatus to mutually transmit the recorded image data therebetween, wherein

a virtual directory name in a form not defined as the DCF standard can be set with respect to a directory recorded in each recording medium of the first and second apparatus in a manner of complying with the file managing structure compatible with the DCF standard,

a virtual directory management file, wherein the virtual directory name is to be compatible with a directory name that corresponds to the virtual directory name and complies with the DCF standard, is formed, and

the file on virtual directory management is to be maintained, although the image data is transmitted mutually between the first and second apparatus, wherein a directory having the file managing structure compatible with the DCF standard and the virtual directory management file not defined by the DCF standard have different extensions.

2. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the first and second apparatus refer to the file on virtual directory management by specifying the virtual directory name and find a directory corresponding to the specified virtual directory name from the DCF standardized file managing structure recorded in the recording medium.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the first apparatus is a digital camera and the second apparatus is a personal computer.

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5. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the first and second apparatuses are digital cameras.

6. (Currently Amended) An apparatus of processing files including a first apparatus for recording image data in a built in recording medium in a manner of complying with a file managing structure compatible with a DCF standard, and a second apparatus, connected to the first apparatus in a manner capable of transmitting data, for recording image data in a built in recording medium in a manner of complying with a file managing structure compatible with a DCF standard, comprising:

input means for inputting and setting a virtual directory name in a form not defined as the DCF standard with respect to a directory recorded in each recording medium of the first and second apparatus in a manner of complying with the file managing structure compatible with the DCF standard; and

recording means for defining the virtual directory name input by the input means as a recording name, forming a virtual directory management file, wherein the virtual directory name is to be compatible with a directory name that corresponds to the virtual directory name and complies with the DCF standard, and recording the file on virtual directory management in the recording medium, wherein

the file on virtual directory management is to be maintained, whereas the image data is transmitted mutually between the first and second apparatus, wherein a directory having the file managing structure compatible with the DCF standard and the virtual directory management file not defined by the DCF standard have different extensions.

7. The apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the first and second apparatus comprise control means for referring to the file on virtual directory management by specifying the virtual directory name and finding a directory corresponding to the specified virtual directory name from the DCF standardized file managing structure recorded in the recording medium.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the first apparatus is a digital camera and the second apparatus is a personal computer.

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10. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the first and second apparatuses are digital cameras.

11. (Currently Amended) An apparatus of processing files including a first apparatus for recording image data in a built in recording medium in a manner of complying with a file managing structure compatible with a DCF standard, and a second apparatus, connected to the first apparatus in a manner capable of transmitting data, for recording image data in a built in recording medium in a manner of complying with a file managing structure compatible with a DCF standard, comprising:

an input section inputting and setting a virtual directory name in a form not defined as the DCF standard with respect to a directory recorded in each recording medium of the first and second apparatus in a manner of complying with the file managing structure compatible with the DCF standard; and

a recording section defining the virtual directory name input by the input section as a recording name, forming a virtual directory management file, wherein the virtual directory name is to be compatible with a directory name that corresponds to virtual directory name and complies with the DCF standard, and recording the file on virtual directory management in the recording medium, wherein

the file on virtual directory management is to be maintained, whereas the image data is transmitted mutually between the first and second apparatus, wherein a directory having the file managing structure compatible with the DCF standard and the virtual directory management file not defined by the DCF standard have different extensions.

12. (Original) The apparatus according claim 11, wherein the first and second apparatus comprise control sections for referring to the file on virtual directory management by specifying the virtual directory name and find a directory corresponding to the specified virtual directory name from the DCF standardized file managing structure recorded in the recording medium.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the first apparatus is a digital camera and the second apparatus is a personal computer.

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15. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the first and second apparatuses are digital cameras.

16. (Currently Amended) A recording medium for file management in which image data is recorded in a manner of complying with a file managing structure compatible with a DCF standard, wherein

a file on virtual directory management, wherein a virtual directory name in a form not defined as the DCF standard is to be compatible with a directory name that corresponds to the virtual directory name and complies with the DCF standard, is recorded with respect to a directory recorded in a manner of complying with the file managing structure compatible with the DCF standard, wherein a directory having the file managing structure compatible with the DCF standard and the virtual directory management file not defined by the DCF standard have different extensions.

17. (Cancelled)